

PETER LOSTER

Atty. Docket No. 4577-00007

published on January 18, 2001 as International Publication WO 01/04423 in the German language. The International Application claims priority of German Patent Application 199 31 977.4, filed July 9, 1999.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Before the paragraph beginning at line 8 of page 2 insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Before the paragraph beginning at line 17 of page 6 insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

Before the paragraph beginning at line 20 of page 7 insert the following:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 1.

Please cancel claim 2.

Please cancel claim 3.

Please cancel claim 4.

Please cancel claim 5.

PETER LOSTER

Atty. Docket No. 4577-00007

Please cancel claim 6.

Please cancel claim 7.

Please cancel claim 8.

Please cancel claim 9.

Please cancel claim 10.

Please cancel claim 11.

Please cancel claim 12.

Please cancel claim 13.

Please cancel claim 14.

Please cancel claim 15.

Please cancel claim 16.

Please add the following claims:

17. A device for controlling correct hooking of two sheet pile locks, wherein the first lock comprises a locking chamber into which a complementary lock part of said second lock penetrates, comprising:

- 5 a detector arranged in said locking chamber of said first lock in such a manner that when the two locks are correctly hooked, said complementary lock part of said second lock shears said detector; and

PETER LOSTER

Atty. Docket No. 4577-00007

an electric circuit for determining that said detector has been sheared, comprising a circuitry, which presents a first impedance value prior to said shearing of said detector and a second impedance value after said shearing of said detector, wherein the two
 10 impedance values differ substantially from the impedance value of a short circuit respectively of an interruption of said electric circuit outside of said circuitry.

18. The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein:

said detector comprises one end made from a ferro-magnetic material which is arranged in said locking chamber of said first lock in such a manner that when said two locks are correctly hooked, it is detached from the remainder of said detector by the
 5 complementary lock part of the second lock, and

the circuitry in the remainder of the detector comprises an inductive switch element of which the inductivity is altered by the detachment of the ferro-magnetic end.

19. The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein:

said detector comprises one end with a permanent magnet, which is arranged in the locking chamber of said first lock, in such a manner that when said two locks are correctly hooked, it is sheared off from the remainder of the detector by the complementary
 5 lock part of said second lock, and

said electric circuit in the remainder of the detector comprises circuitry which responds to a change in the magnetic field which is caused by the shearing off of the permanent magnet.

20. The device as claimed in claim 19, wherein said circuitry that responds to the change in the magnetic field comprises a magnetically actuated microswitch with parallel resistor and series resistor.

21. The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein:

said detector comprises one end which is arranged in said locking chamber of

PETER LOSTER

Atty. Docket No. 4577-00007

the first lock in such a manner that when the two locks are correctly hooked, it is sheared off from the remainder of the detector by the complementary lock part of said second lock, and

5 said electric circuit comprises a resistor circuitry which comprises a terminating resistor in the end to be sheared off of said detector.

22. The device as claimed in claim 21, wherein:

 said resistor circuitry in the remainder of said detector comprises a first resistor and a second resistor, wherein said second resistor is connected in series to said terminating resistor and said first resistor is connected in parallel to the series circuit of
5 terminating resistor and second resistor.

23. The device as claimed in claim 21, further comprising a diode connected directly in series to said resistor circuit in such a manner that a direct current can flow through said resistor circuitry only in one direction.

24. The device as claimed in claim 20, wherein said terminating resistor in said detachable end of said detector and said resistor circuitry in said remainder of said detector are connected to one another via two electrical conductors which form an electrical insulation layer relatively quickly in salt water.

25. The device as claimed in claim 21, wherein:

 said resistor circuitry is arranged on a printed circuit board which is subdivided by a perforation,

5 the terminating resistor is located on the one side and the remainder of the circuitry is located on the other side of the perforation, and

 two conductors lead between said bores of said perforation connecting said terminating resistor to the remainder of the circuitry.

26. The device as claimed in claim 25, wherein said two conductors are

PETER LOSTER

Atty. Docket No. 4577-00007

fixed to said printed circuit board on both sides of said perforation by soldering eyelets.

27. The device as claimed in claim 17, further comprising an evaluation unit which continuously measures at least one electrical parameter of the electric circuit and displays different states on the basis of the measured values.

28. The device as claimed in claim 27, wherein said evaluation unit comprises an above-ground unit and a below-ground unit, wherein the below-ground unit, which is arranged in the immediate proximity of said detector respectively in said detector itself, comprises an active component group, which continuously measures at least one electrical parameter of said electric circuit, carries out a preliminary evaluation of this measurement and on the basis of this preliminary evaluation sends predetermined signals to said above-ground unit.

29. The device as claimed in claim 27, wherein said evaluation unit measures the resistance value of the circuit and, after the occurrence of a change in resistance, checks this with reference to stability during a predetermined time.

30. The device as claimed in claim 26, wherein said electric circuit of the detector comprises an electrical connecting lead and said evaluation unit comprises at least displays for the following states:

- a) detector is OK
- b) detector has been sheared
- c) connecting lead has been interrupted; and
- d) short circuit in the connecting lead.

31. The device as claimed in claim 30, wherein said evaluation unit comprises additional displays for the following states:

- e) short circuit at the separation point of the detector; and

PETER LOSTER

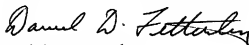
Atty. Docket No. 4577-00007

f) measured resistance is unstable.

32. The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein said detector comprises a body which is subdivided by a predetermined breaking point into a detector base and a detector head, wherein said detector base is attached to said first lock and said detector head projects in an cantilevered manner into said locking chamber of said first lock.

Respectfully submitted,

ANDRUS, SCEALES, STARKE & SAWALL, LLP

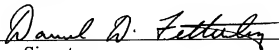


Daniel D. Fetterley
(Reg. No. 20,323)

100 East Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1100
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
(414) 271-7590
Atty. Docket No. 4577-00007 (C.12069-4)

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage, as EXPRESS MAIL - POST OFFICE ADDRESSEE, in an envelope addressed to: Box PCT Application, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the 9th day of January, 2002. The Express Label is EL812732702US.

<u>Daniel D. Fetterley</u>	<u>20,323</u>
Name	Reg. No.
	<u>1/9/02</u>
Signature	Date